

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (previously presented): A system for designating process information comprising:
 - a process execution apparatus for executing a given process,
 - a process control apparatus which executes a prescribed process control of said process execution apparatus; and
 - a process designating apparatus which designates the process control of said process control apparatus,
 - said process designating apparatus possessing a designation information list for the process control,
 - said process control apparatus possessing a control mode table including a control mode which defines the actuation of the process designating apparatus, an information reader which reads the designation information from said designation information list, and a process controller which acquires a prescribed control mode from said control mode table to perform the process control of said process execution apparatus.
2. (previously presented): The system according to Claim 1, wherein said process designating apparatus makes a process designation via a local area network or through a communication apparatus.
3. (previously presented): The system according to Claim 1, which has an information registration apparatus for intensively performing the registration of the designation

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information in the process designating apparatus and the registration of the control mode in the process control apparatus at one portion.

4. (previously presented): The system according to Claim 1, wherein said process designating apparatus has a monitor for monitoring the operating condition of the process execution apparatus.

5. (original): The system according to Claim 4, wherein said monitor acquires the operating condition of the process execution apparatus via the process control apparatus.

6. (original): The system according to Claim 1, wherein said information reader which reads the designation information automatically makes a query for the designation information at a predetermined given timing.

7. (previously presented): The system according to Claim 6, wherein said timing of the query is set to make a query at a given time, or to make a query after the completion of every printing.

8. (previously presented): The system according to Claim 1, which is applied to a process control in a flexible manufacturing line.

9. (original): The system according to Claim 8, wherein said flexible manufacturing line is a printing process in packing and shipping lines for containers.

10. (previously presented): A method for designating process control in a system for designating process information comprising: a process execution apparatus for executing a given process,

a process control apparatus which executes a prescribed process control of said process execution apparatus; and a process designating apparatus which designates the process control of said process control apparatus, said process designating apparatus possessing a designation

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information list for the process control, said process control apparatus possessing a control mode table including a control mode which defines the actuation of the process designating apparatus, an information reader which reads the designation information from said designation information list, and a process controller which acquires a prescribed control mode from said control mode table to perform the process control of said process execution apparatus, the method comprising the following steps:

- a) a step in which said control apparatus performs a prescribed process control at the presently acquired process control mode;
- b) a step in which the step a) is continued until said process execution apparatus completes said prescribed process;
- c) a step in which after the process execution has been completed, said process control apparatus makes a query for the designation information to said process designating apparatus;
- d) a step in which, upon receiving the query for the designation information, said process designating apparatus reads the designation information from the designation information list and presents said designation information utilizing a response signal to said process control apparatus,
- e) a step in which said process control apparatus judges whether or not the control mode is switched to the next mode; and
- f) a step in which if said process control apparatus is judged to switch the control mode into the next control mode, said process control apparatus acquires a prescribed control mode from the control mode table and initiates said acquired control.

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11. (previously presented): A system for designating process information according to claim 1, wherein said designation information list comprises specification information of a product to be packaged.

12. (previously presented): A system for designating process information according to claim 1, wherein said designation information list comprises:

a product number wherein said product number comprises information directed to a number for distinguishing a kind of product to be dealt with by the designating process information system,

a lot number wherein said lot number comprises information to identify a date and place of production and to identify parts making up the product,

a number of products wherein said number of products comprises information prescribing a number products to be printed in a given lot, and

a destination wherein said destination comprises information of a receiver, a receiver's address and an orderer.

13. (previously presented): A system for designating process information according to claim 8, wherein said system switches control modes based on a kind of product to be processed.

14. (previously presented): A system for designating process information according to claim 3, wherein said control mode table is referred to when designation information of a product currently being packaged is different from a next product to be packaged,

wherein when packaging for the new product is required, said process designating apparatus switches to a different registered control mode.

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15. (previously presented): A system for designating process information according to claim 8, wherein packaging for multiple kinds of registered products can be printed one after the other in one system.

16. (previously presented): A system for designating process information according to claim 1, wherein said control mode table defines printing data such as designed letters, patterned images, printing positions, sizes, and colors, wherein said printing data is registered for a plurality of products to be packaged.

17. (previously presented): A system for designating process information according to claim 1, wherein said designation information list comprises:

an operating condition wherein said operating condition comprises:

a producing condition wherein a plurality of process execution apparatuses execute printing,

a switching condition wherein at least one of said plurality of process execution apparatuses has completed printing and is ready to switch to a different control mode, and

a stopping condition wherein the plurality of process execution apparatuses are done printing and are ready to switch to a different control mode.

18. (previously presented): A system for designating process information according to claim 1, wherein said designation information list is selected from at least one of:

a product number wherein said product number comprises information directed to a number for distinguishing a kind of product to be dealt with by the designating process information system,

a lot number wherein said lot number comprises information to identify a date and place of production and to identify parts making up the product,

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a number of products wherein said number of products comprises information prescribing a number products to be printed in a given lot, and

a destination wherein said destination comprises information of a receiver, a receiver's address and an orderer.

19. (previously presented): The system according to Claim 1, wherein said information reader of said process control apparatus comprises:

a timer, wherein said information reader reads the designation information from said process designation apparatus and automatically makes a query for the designation information of the designation information list of a product at a predetermined given timing according to said timer.

20. (previously presented): The system according to Claim 19, wherein said timer of the information reader of the process control apparatus is set to make a query at a given time, or to make a query after the completion of every printing of the designation information of the product by the process execution apparatus.

21. (previously presented): The system according to Claim 1, wherein a process controller applies a process control in a flexible manufacturing line, wherein said flexible manufacturing line manufactures packaged products.

22. (previously presented): The system according to Claim 8, wherein said process execution apparatus provides a printing process in packing and shipping lines for containers in a flexible manufacturing line.

23. (previously presented): A system for designating process information according to claim 13, wherein said information reader of said system switches control modes based on a kind of product to be processed on the designation information list.

24. (previously presented): A system for designating process information according to claim 3, wherein said process controller refers to the control mode table when designation information of a product currently being packaged is different from a next product to be packaged,

wherein when packaging for the new product is required, said process designating apparatus switches to a different registered control mode.

25. (previously presented): A system for designating process information according to claim 8, wherein said process execution apparatus prints packaging for multiple kinds of registered products one after the other in one system.

26. (new): A system for designating process information comprising:
a process execution apparatus for executing a given process,
a process control apparatus which executes a prescribed process control of said process execution apparatus; and

a process designating apparatus which designates the process control of said process control apparatus,

said process designating apparatus possessing a designation information list for the process control,

said process control apparatus possessing a control mode table including a control mode means for defining actuation of the process designating apparatus, an information reading means for reading the designation information from said designation information list, and a process controlling means for acquiring a prescribed control mode from said control mode table to perform the process control of said process execution apparatus.

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STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW

An interview was conducted between Examiners Drew Hirshfeld, Jill Culler and the undersigned Applicant's representative on July 27, 2004. The objections to the claims were discussed. In particular, the objections to the claims with respect to the structural and functional language of the claims were discussed. Upon further review of the file, the Examiners indicated that the structural and functional language of the claims will be given due consideration contrary to what was previously asserted. Consequently, the Examiner's requested that a Request for Reconsideration be filed in response to the pending Office Action.

It is respectfully submitted that the instant STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW complies with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§1.2 and 1.133 and MPEP §713.04.